GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1042
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
GROWTH IN HEALTHCARE SECTOR
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to declare health sector as an industry and extend all facilities accordingly by creating low-cost high quality facilities in the health sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of growth in healthcare sector and medical tourism recorded each year during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)
(a) At present there is no proposal to confer industry status to the health sector in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the Economic Survey 2007-08, Public spending on health inclusive of social determinants like drinking water and nutrition is 1.27 %, 1.36% and 1.39% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, respectively.

No centralized data is maintained on medical tourist traffic to India. However, several initiatives have already been initiated to promote Medical Tourism through wider dissemination of health related materials, films, brochures etc.